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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JOSEPH MINER, an individual,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CITY OF DESERT HOT SPRINGS,
CALIFORNIA, a municipal corporation;

TUAN ANH VU, an individual, in his investigative and administrative capacity;

PRESIDING JUDGE RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, Judith Clark in her official, executive, and administrative capacity;

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR
COURT, Jason Galkin, in his official,
executive, and administrative capacity;

DOE DEFENDANTS 1-20,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 8:24-cv-02793-CAS (E)

Related: 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA (stayed)

Honorable Christina A. Snyder
Senior United States district judge

PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION
TO CITY DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS
PURSUANT TO RULES 12(b)(6) OF THE
FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Declaration of Joseph Miner with exhibits

Hearing Date: None

Due: April 14 or earlier

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1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I. INTRODUCTORY ISSUES**

3 1. The city begins its motion by mis-leading this court pointing at and relitigating a
4 separate de novo civil citation case that has nothing to do with the instant federal action.

5 2. City defendants twist and mis-state the history, the facts, the law and the record of
6 the City's cases issued then filed against Plaintiff in the form of ticket citations attempting to
7 assimilate a distinctly separate civil case that is not associated with this action. The first amended
8 complaint was specifically tailored to address most of Defendants' anticipated dismissal claims.

9 3. Historically, the facts begin when Miner's ranch home and land that was trespassed,
10 entered, searched and ransacked by code enforcement officers who failed to obtain a search
11 warrant. (see FAC ¶31) The county sheriff, a distinctly separate agency, had concluded and
12 completed a separate search earlier that day. (8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA SAC ¶30-32). No
13 marijuana, grower issues, or individuals remained for the City's secondary and separate unlawful
14 warrantless intrusion into four land parcels and seven buildings. (*Gardner v. Evans*, 920 F. 3d
15 1038 - Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit 2019; *US v. Grey*, 959 F. 3d 1166 - Court of Appeals, 9th
16 Circuit 2020). Miner, the offsite ranch owner, was never questioned about or charged with any
17 marijuana offense and had a lease agreement prohibiting the cultivation of unlicensed marijuana.

18 **A. This Specific Action Filed by Plaintiff Re-litigates Nothing**

19 4. City defendants make all-encompassing broad generalized statements and legal
20 arguments without a surgical analysis of each issue. In basic terms the strategic 12(b)(6) tactic
21 mis-leads the court. The City's arguments fail through scrutiny of fact and law.

22 5. There are consistent mis-statements throughout the City's motion (CM) states p. 7:
23 ln 27-28) "The allegations of the FAC establish that the City, as a governmental entity, and Vu,
24 as a government employee... yet defendant Vu's other attorney Mario Alfaro takes the position
25 Defendant Vu is not a government employee "*As you may know, our position is that service*
26 *on Mr. Vu is deficient because he is not a City employee...*" (ex #1). The City states there
27 was a police raid, when in fact there is no evidence of a city "police" raid at all. (CM p.16, ln 14)
28 The City is a moving target throughout the entire text of its motion to dismiss.

1 6. The case at issue, civil case CVPS2016001, the de novo civil trial regarding the City
2 ticket issued against Miner, was dismissed without prejudice by the non-stipulated judicial
3 officer who Plaintiff alleges lacked judicial power. (ex #2)

4 7. Defendants are long aware not a single issue was adjudicated in case
5 CVPS20106001 as verified by defendants filing of RJN as seen in Case 8:22-cv-01043-
6 CAS-MAA Document 62 Filed 03/27/23 Page 7 of 17 Page ID #:1272 item #2.

7 8. Government code §53069.4(b)(3) in plain text, plain language - fails to infer or
8 deliver judicial power to “hear and determine” the infinite array of constitutional issues, code and
9 law that arise (FAC ¶153) and unlimited fines now also involved in these cases.

10 9. Miner was offered and requested a judge in open court. A court commissioner was
11 then assigned to Miner’s case (all purpose assignment) (*People v. Superior Court (Lavi*, 847 P.
12 2d 1031 - Cal: Supreme Court 1993 #C) without: notice, consent, stipulation, legal, statutory, or
13 constitutional authority, to “*hear and determine*” the proceeding. Yet, he lacked jurisdiction to
14 act without express stipulation of parties litigant. The assignment was an improper delegation of
15 judicial power. (*People v. Berch*, 29 Cal. App. 5th 966 - Cal: Court of Appeal, 4th Appellate
16 Dist., 3rd Div. 2018). (*Jovine v. FHP, Inc.* (1998) 64 Cal.App.4th 1506, 1521) Coram non judice.

17 10. A litany of legal trial issues were argued in Miner’s AOB (FAC ex #14) and
18 conspicuously ignored by the superior court judges of the appellate division as seen in their
19 Opinion (FAC ex #15). (compare) There is no request by Plaintiff for this court to review
20 Miner’s state pleadings, defense, or judgment of dismissal - this is simply stated as fact.

21 11. Before this court, alleged against City defendants, is one federal due process count
22 related to one case; one city ticket - #27948D. The historical factual issues are (1) the motive of
23 the officer and city Defendants, (2) complete lack of constitutional notice, (3) the constitutionally
24 defective ticket, (4) the refusal / denial of a statutory required administrative hearing, (5) a civil
25 trial de novo, void of all defensive statutorily guaranteed procedure CCP. §90-100, administered
26 by a person, not a judge. (6) The state court judgment of dismissal without prejudice by the same
27 non stipulated judicial officer.

28 12. The failure of the Riverside Superior Court appellate division which included the

1 current presiding judge, to address the plain text of the law (questions of statutory interpretation
2 are subject to de novo review) (*Tansavatdi v. City of Rancho Palos Verdes* (2023) 14 Cal.5th
3 639, 652.), and clarify the law GC. §53069.4(b)(3) has led to this action. The superior court does
4 not appear to want to clarify the law, or certify the law for clarification to any court of review.

5 13. Plaintiff has no other legal remedy to address these issues and clarify the law. He is
6 has been damaged and is likely to end up in the same situation in the future as he owns several
7 land parcels in the City subject to administrative fines. The draconian ordinances are so broad
8 and so profitable he can be cited for a empty coke can (trash blown onto his property), or as he
9 was for a single 32" spare tire and a single 18" x 24" plastic nursery tray.

10 14. To be clear regarding City ticket #27948D - Miner was not served notice as
11 mandated by law (no notice appears in the record). Miner was not given time to cure before the
12 fine was issued, as mandated by law. Miner received no pre-deprivation hearing. Miner received
13 no post deprivation hearing. Miner contends every line item alleged regarding due process is true
14 and correct regarding the citation itself and the procedure surrounding the citation.

15 15. While discussing his case Miner was informed by a retired federal defender at the
16 federal courthouse in Riverside California that he was “sand bagged” or “homeboyed” ~
17 apparently meaning the commissioner (a county prosecutor) and defendant Vu (city prosecutor)
18 with a wink and a nod - worked together. Miner doesn’t know.

19 16. No issue regarding city ticket #27948D was adjudicated in trial court. Nothing
20 regarding the city ticket itself was upheld in either the Remittitur or Per Curiam Opinion of the
21 appellate division for case CVPS2106001 / APRI2200109. The case was dismissed.

22 17. While the de novo court case CVPS2106001 was dismissed without prejudice, the
23 ticket had been paid in full in advance, the administrative hearing mandated by law was refused /
24 denied to be heard by the City and hearing officer.

25 18. The City attempts to confuse this court. The City code officer issued two distinctly
26 separate city tickets (citations), on two separate and unique land parcels (with different parcel
27 numbers), on two separate dates, concerning two separate sets of facts, regarding different laws,
28 and different evidence and tried in superior court on different dates.

1 19. The other city ticket #27926D and resulting state limited civil action
2 CVPS2016016, the other appeal to that case APRI2300007 are not addressed or argued or at
3 issue in the instant complaint yet the City refers to APRI2300007 to confuse the court: cases 016
4 ad 007 are not applicable, relatable or res judicata to the instant federal case. [with emphasis]

5 **B. Brief History**

6 20. After an unlawful, warrantless, search and seizure, of his ranch by city officials
7 4/28/2021, and after Miner refusing a surprise “re-inspection” again without a warrant over a
8 month later, the code officer issued Citation #27948D on 8/18/2021 for Riverside County land
9 parcel APN 657-220-005. City ticket #27948D, by statute, became civil de novo trial case
10 CVPS2106001, which became two appellate division cases. APRI2200109 was regarding
11 judgment of dismissal, and APRI2200098, was regarding the vexatious litigant pre-filing order.
12 Both issues, the dismissal and order, were addressed in a single brief for convenience.

13 21. Citation #27948D issued on 8/18/2021 for Riverside County land parcel APN 657-
14 220-005, the trial de novo CVPS2106001, and the resulting consolidated appeals APRI2200098,
15 APRI2200109 are only state cases related to this complaint.

16 22. The natural flow of factual events for was the following: (1) unlawful warrantless
17 search by city, (2) refusal by Plaintiff to permit warrantless re-inspection, (3) city issues ticket,
18 (4) city refuses to provide administrative hearing, (5) civil court trial de novo, (6) dismissal
19 without prejudice, (7) appellate division appeal and Opinion, (8) motion to vacate the *void ab
initio* judgment and orders based on lack of subject matter jurisdiction as verified by the appellate
21 division in its Opinion stating the SJO was not acting as a judge. (9) refusal by appellate division,
22 to permit appeal of appealable order, by Plaintiff to challenge vagueness of GC. §53069.4(b)(3)
23 and blocking him from appealing. Denying even the ability to file an appeal in the same case
24 violating *John v. Superior Court*, 369 P. 3d 238 - Cal: Supreme Court 2016. Miner had a
25 statutory right to appeal the appealable order based on lack of jurisdiction. (*Powers v. City of
Richmond*, 893 P. 2d 1160 - Cal: Supreme Court 1995; *Jennings v. Marralle*, 876 P. 2d 1074 -
27 Cal: Supreme Court 1994)

28 23. The stayed federal case 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA is in the hands of Plaintiffs's

1 attorney and addresses different issues. It was filed long before the state action came to an end
2 and the judgment of dismissal. Case 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA is still in the 12(b)(6) stage,
3 nothing has been litigated or adjudicated in the federal action. The adjudication of this instant
4 case is pivotal and is now a necessary pre-runner to the eventual adjudication of 8:22-cv-01043-
5 CAS-MAA.

6 **C. False Labels, Words and Statements**

7 24. False labels seem to control this litigation. Defendant Miner was re-labeled a
8 “plaintiff” by the city. Miner was then labeled a “vexatious litigant” when he, in 70 years, had
9 done nothing vexatious (his acts in defense in the city ticket case was to “make a record” in a
10 court that did not follow the court’s own rules including state law and statutory procedure.

11 25. The judicial officer (Hester) acted and ruled with the label “Judge,” when in fact, he
12 was never a judge. The city purports to claim every case is “related,” when in fact there is no true
13 relation at all for preclusion or any prior litigation.

14 26. Miner has not “flooded” anything or filed multiple cases or any state cases. Nothing
15 and no case is duplicative. The City’s statement is utterly false. The state cases are defensive in
16 nature as Miner was “prosecuted” by the City seemingly to attempt to ‘cover up’ an unlawful
17 warrantless search and seizure. Miner has filed no state action against the City. Ever.

18 **D. Defendants Failure to Meet Burden under 12(b)(6)**

19 27. Defendant’s have failed to meet their burden. There is no bar to the instant
20 complaint or counts. The facts and labels in the state case were contorted. There is no judgment
21 on the merits of Miner’s defense in CVPS2106001. There was no judgment on the merits as to
22 due process in CVPS2106001. The appellate division Remittitur or Per Curiam Opinion only
23 clarified the SJO lacked jurisdiction, as a subordinate officer, which is why the clarification of
24 GC. §53069.4(b)(3) is so important. The appellate division did not address the court’s own
25 violations of law, dismissal, and grossly ignores and mis-states the entire court record.

26 28. The gravamen of Plaintiff’s complaint is clarification of the law that leads to
27 inconsistent treatment, inconsistent defenses, inconsistent procedure, inconsistent use of
28 subordinate officers, inconsistent judgments, inconsistent appellate division opinions, related to

1 the use of “administrative citations” and GC. §53069.4 throughout the 58 court jurisdictions in
2 the state of California,. The law should ‘mean something.’ All citizens should be treated equally.

3 29. There is more at stake than the outcome of this single case. Plaintiff has pled the
4 inconsistencies in prosecution by the City and the court system throughout the state. (*Montilla v.*
5 *INS*, 926 F. 2d 162 - *Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit 1991*) In addition, "Careless observance by an
6 agency of its own administrative processes weakens its effectiveness in the eyes of the public
7 because it exposes the possibility of favoritism and of inconsistent application of the law." Id. at
8 169 (*McKart v. United States*, 395 U.S. 185, 195, 89 S.Ct. 1657, 23 L.Ed.2d 194 (1969)).

9 **E. Plaintiff Miner’s State Court Ticket Defense**

10 30. Miner set forth to defend himself against the ticket above. Miner believed there
11 were gross deficiencies, boiler plate statements, false allegations, mis-stated and mis-applied law
12 alleged by the city officer, and a notice-style ticket that did not even tell Miner the location of the
13 alleged violations on his 5 acre (200,000 sf) property. Miner is a forty year professional in this
14 specific area of law. The city ticketed Miner, the city initiated the action against Miner. Miner
15 noted the citation “facts changed” when Defendant Vu became involved. (See Decl. Miner)

16 31. Miner paid the \$500 fine in advance, \$100 for each of the alleged 5 different and
17 separate allegations, just to secure an administrative hearing. When the City (Vu) manipulated
18 and effectively refused to give Miner the administrative hearing mandated by law, Miner was
19 forced to ‘request’ a statutory trial de novo where he would defend himself, but in trial court.

20 32. By law the administrative case is transferred to civil court and it becomes a limited
21 civil case. The following case explains the GC. 53069.4 procedure is somewhat like a traffic
22 ticket. (*People v. Kennedy* (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 1233, 1239 [86 Cal.Rptr.3d 236] P. 1240.
23 *Analysis*) Permitting a subordinate judicial officer to act as a temporary judge requires stipulation
24 of the parties. (*Michaels v. Turk*, 239 Cal. App. 4th 1411 - *Cal: Court of Appeal, 4th Appellate*
25 *Dist., 2nd Div. 2015*).

26 33. The de novo trial case took many bizarre unforeseeable twists and turns. Miner
27 requested a judge. A commissioner was forced upon him. Miner had filed an ***England***
28 ***Reservation*** (ex #3) and a list of affirmative defenses (ex #4).

1 34. It was determined post trial, by the appellate division, the commissioner was acting
2 as a subordinate judicial officer (SJO), not a judge. No law exists that permits or authorizes a
3 court commissioner to act as a judge to hear and determine limited civil cases without a
4 stipulation by parties litigant. The case is similar to (*Jovine v. FHP, Inc.* (1998) 64 Cal.App.4th
5 1506, 1521) which describes the wholesale use of court commissioners as temporary judges and
6 states using a commissioner is a due process issue.

7 35. The instant case goes far beyond the acts in *Jovine*. Also see (*Aetna Life Ins. Co. v.*
8 *Superior Court, supra*, 182 Cal.App.3d at p. 437, 227 Cal.Rptr. 460; *Reisman v. Shahverdian*
9 (1984) 153 Cal.App.3d 1074, 1092, 201 Cal.Rptr. 194).

10 36. At the very end of trial somehow the City convinced the SJO Miner was not
11 defending himself, and that he was actually the plaintiff prosecuting the City! The City then
12 convinced the non-stipulated judicial officer to declare defendant Miner a vexatious litigant over
13 documents Miner filed and witnesses he requested for trial. He declared Miner vexatious.

14 37. This was an ancillary proceeding, again no notice of stipulation request by the court
15 or request for stipulation. Miner had already non stipulated and the court was aware of it: “*And,*
16 *as I stated, I will not even try to deny the fact that there have been things that the Court has had*
17 *to delay, but some of those have been because of the non- stip arguments that you have made,*
18 *and obviously you have an opportunity to do so... ”* (Document 6-1 Filed 01/29/25 Page 215 of
19 261 Page ID #:537)

20 38. The SJO ordered defendant Miner to pay the city’s attorney fees to continue to
21 defend himself, in the trial de novo which was no more than 10 minutes from conclusion. Miner,
22 the defendant, did not pay the City’s attorney fees so that he could further defend himself in trial
23 court. The case was dismissed without prejudice by the SJO. The only citation and case at issue,
24 CVPS2106001, was dismissed, without prejudice.

25 39. Miner has found no case similar to this, including where a defendant in a civil
26 action, in the first instance, was declared a vexatious litigant for the specific acts of the case,
27 without warning, without sanctions, without safe harbor, and ordered to pay attorney fees of
28 plaintiff City to continue to defend himself by a subordinate judicial officer, not a judge. This

1 would lead to constitutional injury, and absurd results, in court trials throughout the state.

2 40. Under California law nothing is adjudged in a case that is dismissed without
3 prejudice. (*Fleishbein v. Western Auto Supply Agency* (1937) 19 Cal.App.2d 424, 427)

4 41. Plaintiff has painstakingly detailed the allegations. The initial jurisdiction and due
5 process issues addressed on FAC ¶1-14. Relevant historical factual issues FAC ¶31-78. Facts of
6 the case ¶79-227.

7 **F. Chicken and the Egg**

8 42. The simple legal argument to make is that CG. §53069.4 offers two roads to relief.
9 (1) Trial de Novo or (2) Writ of Mandate. It would make no legislative sense that when
10 requesting a trial de novo you do not get a duly appointed judge, and when requesting a writ of
11 mandate you do. The law reads ‘conduct of the hearing’ may be assigned to a subordinate judicial
12 officer. There are nine separate categories and levels of subordinate judicial officers (similar to a
13 magistrate). However, to “hear and determine” facts and law requires a duly appointed superior
14 court judge. That case law is clear, but the text of the law GC. §53069.4(b)(3) is not. (FAC ex 1)

15 43. Miner does not attack the judgment, the order, or request this court review the facts
16 of any state case; he requests this court clarify the law because there are serious constitutional
17 discrepancies of the application and understanding of the law throughout the state.

18 44. The facts show, for whatever reason, appellate division NEVER analyzed the plain
19 text of the law for 53069.4(b)(3) which is required by law (its ruling and reasoning was arbitrary
20 and capricious) The Legislature knew the constitutional limits of a non stipulated judicial officer
21 when the statute was enacted in 1995. Had the legislature intended for nine separate categories of
22 subordinate judicial officers to act as a judge with full judicial powers, without express
23 stipulation of the parties litigant, the operative judicial phrase “hear and determine” would have
24 surely been included in the plain text of the law. This language is tradition since at least 1784.

25 (*Talbot v. The Commanders*, 1 US 95 - Supreme Court 1784)

26 “The proper interpretation of a statute is a question of law we review de novo. (*United*
27 *Educators of San Francisco etc. v. California Unemployment Ins. Appeals Bd.* (2020) 8
28 *Cal.5th* 805, 812 [257 Cal.Rptr.3d 384, 456 P.3d 1]; *People v. Prunty* (2015) 62 Cal.4th 59,
71 [192 Cal.Rptr.3d 309, 355 P.3d 480].) ... ” We begin by examining the statute’s words,
giving them a plain and commonsense meaning.”” (*People v. Gonzalez* (2017) 2 Cal.5th
1138, 1141 [218 Cal.Rptr.3d 150, 394 P.3d 1074].) (See *People v. Lewis*, 491 P. 3d 309 -

1 *Cal: Supreme Court 2021)*

2 45. The vague law is grossly and inconsistently applied from jurisdiction to jurisdiction,
3 and courtroom to courtroom throughout the State of California leading to issues of constitutional
4 dimension for all who defend themselves in superior court. Parties cannot play the game if they
5 do not know the rules and the rules change throughout the state. (FAC ex 6, 11, 12)

6 **II. OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION**

7 46. Defendant's unspecific shotgun denial does not pass scrutiny. Its hideous mis-use
8 and mis-application of facts and words are a burden for the court. Statements such as pg 8: ln 9-
9 12: "Ever since the CITY's code enforcement (1) *team found illegal marijuana* on his property,
10 Plaintiff has (2) *flooded the state trial court*, (3) *state appellate court*, and federal district courts
11 with (4) *multiple duplicative claims*, ...

12 47. The City attempts to use an industrial blender and dizzy the court to make their case
13 throughout the entire motion it mis-states the state cases, the facts, throws in a judgment on the
14 merits and more. The facts: (1) the city did not find the marijuana, (2) Miner flooded nothing,
15 Miner defended himself per statute, (3) it was the appellate division, not appellate court, (4) there
16 are no duplicative claims. **There is no judgement on the merits. The state case was dismissed**
17 **without prejudice.** Unfortunately the mis-statements run profusely and are threaded throughout
18 City's entire motion impossible to address every mis-statement by City defendants.

19 **A. Legal Authority**

20 **1. Rule 12 Dismissals**

21 48. With respect to Defendants' arguments under Rule 12(b)(6), Plaintiff has factually
22 alleged each of his claims in precisely the manner specified by the Ninth Circuit. Defendants
23 spend most of the Motion arguing the merits, which is improper at this stage, particularly because
24 Defendants' counter-narrative is contrary to the Complaint's well-pleaded allegations,
25 unsupported by evidence, mis-characterized and inconsistent with facts that have come to light in
26 other proceedings. (*See, e.g., King v. Rubenstein, 825 F.3d 206, 214 (4th Cir. 2016)*)

27 49. Rule 12(b)(6) motion generally cannot be used to "resolve contests surrounding the
28 facts, the merits of a claim, or the applicability of defenses."

1 50. Lastly, City defendants attempt to insert and homogenize cases that have nothing to
2 do with the single city ticket and single civil case at issue that was dismissed without prejudice in
3 state court. Plaintiff disputes cases listed by Defendants are truly ‘related’ to this instant case.
4 Defendants have waived and forfeited all rights to contest or oppose the state dismissal without
5 prejudice and did not oppose the dismissal.

6 51. A defendant may move to dismiss a complaint for failing to state a claim upon
7 which relief can be granted under Rule 12(b)(6). "Dismissal under Rule 12(b)(6) is appropriate
8 only where the complaint lacks a cognizable legal theory or sufficient facts to support a
9 cognizable legal theory." (*Mendiondo v. Centinela Hosp. Med. Ctr.*, 521 F.3d 1097, 1104 (9th
10 Cir. 2008)).

11 52. To survive a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, a plaintiff need only plead "enough facts to state
12 a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." (*Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570
13 (2007)). A claim is facially plausible when a plaintiff pleads "factual content that allows the court
14 to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged."
15 (*Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009)).

16 53. In reviewing the plausibility of a complaint, courts "accept factual allegations in the
17 complaint as true and construe the pleadings in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party."
18 (*Manzarek v. St. Paul Fire & Marine Ins. Co.*, 519 F.3d 1025, 1031 (9th Cir. 2008)). Plaintiff
19 avers he has met Rule 12(b)(6) pleading standards.

20 **B. Dismissal Based on Res Judicata**

21 **1. Res Judicata - State**

22 54. State of California res judicata does not apply to the facts and issues of the instant
23 litigation. Claim preclusion is an affirmative defense available by motion to dismiss under
24 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6). (*Scott v. Kuhlmann*, 746 F.2d 1377, 1378 (9th Cir.
25 1984)). Under the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the U.S. Constitution, federal courts "give to a
26 state-court judgment the same preclusive effect as would be given that judgment under the law of
27 the [s]tate in which the judgment was rendered." (See U.S. Const. art. IV, § 1; 28 U.S.C. § 1738;
28 (*White v. City of Pasadena*, 671 F.3d 918, 926 (9th Cir. 2012) (citing *Migra v. Warren City Sch.*

1 *Dist. Bd. of Ed.*, 465 U.S. 75, 81 (1984)).

2 55. [T]o determine the preclusive effect of [a] California state court decision, [the court
3 applies] California law." (*Kay v. City of Rancho Palos Verdes*, 504 F.3d 803, 808 (9th Cir.
4 2007); (*see also Mycogen Corp. v. Monsanto Co.*, 28 Cal. 4th 888, 896 (2013)) (claim preclusion
5 is known as res judicata under California law and "describes the preclusive effect of a final
6 judgment on the merits."). Here, there has been no final judgment on the merits. The City never
7 opposed the type and or form of dismissal.

8 56. Res judicata is premised on the principle that "the party to be affected, or some
9 other with whom he is in privity" has previously litigated the same issue and "should not be
10 permitted to litigate it again . . ." *Citizens for Open Access etc. (Tide, Inc. v. Seadrift Ass'n*, 60
11 *Cal. App. 4th* 1053, 1064-65 (1998). Like other jurisdictions' claim preclusion doctrines, res
12 judicata bars any claim that could have or should have been litigated in the prior action. (*See*
13 *Palomar Mobilehome Park Ass'n v. San Marcos*, 989 F.2d 362, 364 (9th Cir. 1993)).

14 57. Under California law, res judicata precludes a party from re-litigating (1) the same
15 claim, (2) against the same party, (3) **when that claim proceeded to a final judgment on the**
16 **merits in a prior action**. (*Adam Bros. Farming v. Cnty. of Santa Barbara*, 604 F.3d 1142,
17 1148-49 (9th Cir. 2010).[4]); *See Mycogen Corp. v. Monsanto Co.*, 28 Cal.4th 888, 123
18 *Cal.Rptr.2d* 432, 51 P.3d 297, 301 (Cal.2002)). Miner has not filed or made state claims against
19 the City in superior court. Miner had defended himself in state court against the City's claims.

20 58. Federal law is clear that a state may not grant preclusive effect in its own courts to a
21 constitutionally infirm judgment. (*Kremer v. Chem. Constr. Corp.*, 456 U.S. 461, 482, 102 S.Ct.
22 1883, 72 L.Ed.2d 262 (1982)). The Court lacked jurisdiction.

23 59. Defendants' EXHIBIT 7 has nothing to do with this case. EXHIBIT 7 relates to
24 CVPS2016016 and appellate division case APRI2300007. See ¶18? for argument.

25 60. All state trial issues affecting this state case have ended in dismissal without
26 prejudice. The administrative decision has no preclusive effect. (*See Jamgotchian v. Ferraro*, 93
27 *F.4th* 1150, 1160 (9th Cir. 2024)). The SJO's lack of jurisdiction to act as a superior court judge
28 affects all cases in state court.

1 **C. Dismissal Based on Primary Rights Doctrine**

2 61. The primary rights doctrine comes into play when state and federal complaints are
3 nearly identical. The problem for Defendants is that Plaintiff never sued the city. He has never
4 filed a state complaint against the City. He never sought damages in state court against any City
5 defendant. He simply defended himself against a city ticket just like he would in a traffic ticket.

6 62. The claims and damages that Plaintiff now seeks to obtain in federal court are
7 unique as no claims or damages were ever sought in state court. For purposes of res judicata, it is
8 relevant that Plaintiff never filed a state action under any legal theory. (*See Mycogen, 123*
9 *Cal.Rptr.2d 432, 51 P.3d at 307*).

10 63. Nothing was fully, fairly or actively litigated in state court because of the
11 dysfunction of the trial court and dismissal without prejudice. Documents were submitted, denied
12 sans any material analysis at all. The City has never filed a per se civil action against Miner, the
13 City cited Miner which is effectively a type of ticket, akin to a speeding or parking ticket in
14 design. (*Maldonado v. Harris, 370 F. 3d 945 - Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 2004*)

15 **D. Dismissal Based on Federal Claim Preclusion**

16 64. Federal claim preclusion does not apply to the facts and issues of the instant matter.
17 Miner filed the first federal complaint at beginning stages of the de novo trials.

18 65. With Miner as defendant, nothing came to judgment on the merits in
19 CVPS2106001. Miner expected comity, the SJO refused comity. Miner attempted to selectively
20 choose what could be litigated in federal court and what was expected to be litigated in state
21 court.

22 66. The currently stayed federal action does not maintain the same causes of action, the
23 same issues, same rights, same relief or the same facts. As the Supreme Court stated in *The*
24 *Haytian Republic*, "the true test of the sufficiency of a plea of 'other suit pending' in another
25 forum [i]s the legal efficacy of the first suit, when finally disposed of, as 'the thing adjudged,'
26 regarding the matters at issue in the second suit." 154 U.S. 118, 124, 14 S.Ct. 992, 38 L.Ed. 930
27 (1894); (*see also Hartsel Springs Ranch, 296 F.3d at 987 n.*) 1 ("[I]n the claim-splitting context,
28 the appropriate inquiry is whether, assuming that the first suit were already final. The cases are

1 mostly dis-similar.

2 **E. Dismissal Based on Honorable Judge Snyder's Orders**

3 67. The instant case, and the stayed case are nothing alike - both confronting different
4 issues. The Kafkaesque ending to the trial case CVPS2106001 > appellate division case
5 APRI2200109 confirming that the commissioner was acting only as a subordinate officer and not
6 a judge. This astonishing event mandated further litigation to clarify the and resolve issues of a
7 subordinate judicial officer acting as judge lacking judicial authority.

8 68. Miner cannot speak for his attorney regarding 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA. Miner
9 did not believe the state case was over following the Appellate Division ruling, considering the
10 commissioner's lack of jurisdiction to act as a superior court judge was crystalized. This fact
11 would prolong solving the state court issues before opening the federal litigation. A decision was
12 made not to waste a single minute of the court's time and resources. It was fully anticipated this
13 instant case would be automatically assigned to Hon. Judge Snyder which Miner indicated it
14 should be on the recent submission. Miner anticipated the panoply of legal issues could be
15 addressed at that time or the case remained stayed and the instant case proceed to resolve the
16 instant issues.

17 69. The state court's actions mandated Plaintiff put the horse before the cart and deal
18 with the lack of jurisdiction of the trial court which was only determined upon the appellate
19 division's Opinion text regarding the commissioner's judicial authority

20 See: Document 6-1 Filed 01/29/25 Page 172 of 261 Page ID #:494 ¶5
21 Document 6-1 Filed 01/29/25 Page 178 of 261 Page ID #:500 ¶6
22 Document 6-1 Filed 01/29/25 Page 218 of 261 Page ID #:540 all

23 **F. Dismissal based on Opinion / Remittitur**

24 70. As thoroughly addressed in the complaint Plaintiff and his attorney did not believe
25 the state cases were final based on the wild ending and the admission by the appellate clearly
26 indicating the SJO was not acting as a judge. Miner filed a motion to vacate the void judgments,
27 the trial court reluctantly believed it was bound by a "hollow" and arbitrary appellate division
28 decision. Miner was then BLOCKED from appealing by the same appellate division you refused
to (1) analyze the plain text of the law GC. 53069.4(b)(3), and (2) at the same time refused to

1 permit Miner to appeal the ruling. Abstention doctrines will be addressed in one section at end.

2 71. Defendant argues a repeating 8-track tape. See defendants motion page 13:ln 9-12.

3 “holding that “(u)nder this aspect of res judicata, **the prior final judgment on the merits not**
4 **only settles issues that were actually litigated but also every issue that might have been raised**
5 **and litigated in the first action.**” Civil case CVPS2106001 was dismissed without prejudice.

6 **G. Dismissal Based on Rule 8 - the Complaint Is Cogent**

7 72. The FAC is well pled, factual, the counts are short and concise. Plaintiff prefers
8 short sentences and short paragraphs (3-5 sentences) rather than long rambling sentences and
9 paragraphs like City defendants. Depending on how the paragraphs are combined each count for
10 the due process administrative citation is just 11 short paragraphs. For the administrative hearing
11 the court is 10 short paragraphs.

12 73. State count elements were taken directly from CACI jury instructions. Federal
13 counts were taken from various similar Institute for Justice ongoing complaints and modified to
14 instant complaint. Plaintiff’s complaint is meant to be thorough, complete, factual with nothing
15 waived or forfeited. The counts were kept to a minimum. (*See Hearns v. San Bernardino Police*
16 *Dept., 530 F. 3d 1124 - Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 2008*).

17 **H. Dismissal Based on Subject Matter / Article III Jurisdiction**

18 74. Federal subject matter jurisdiction, unlike state courts, is limited, meaning federal
19 courts can only hear cases involving federal law or specific conditions like diversity jurisdiction
20 (parties from different states and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000) (*Insurance Corp.*
21 *of Ireland v. Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee, 456 US 694 - Supreme Court 1982; Monroe v.*
22 *Pape, 365 US 167 - Supreme Court 1961*). This Court has supplemental jurisdiction of state
23 claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1337

24 75. Article III standing, a crucial concept in US law, refers to the requirement that a
25 plaintiff (the person bringing a lawsuit) must demonstrate a genuine stake in the outcome of a
26 case to have the right to sue in federal court. This means they must show they’ve suffered a
27 concrete and particularized injury, that the injury is fairly traceable to the defendant’s actions, and
28 that a favorable court decision is likely to redress the injury.

1 76. Plaintiff has suffered damages and will continue to suffer damage in that a fines
2 have been imposed, he may have his driver license suspended, tax money seized, business license
3 rejected, unable to remove the false recorded lien on his real property, or remove a false “red tag”
4 with no proper address and obtain a real estate loan or sell his five acre property.

5 77. The effects of the City and Court acts have been very damaging. He was found to be
6 a vexatious litigant by a person without judicial designation, and placed on a external court list,
7 and defamed and exposed with negative defaming stigma on the internet because of it. It's a
8 permanent injunction that injures him daily suffering humiliation, embarrassment, and outrage.
9 Lastly, he has had his constitutional rights violated and access to the court stifled. He was found
10 liable and or guilty by a person who lacked all judicial authority.

11 **I. The State Defense and Federal Offense Actions Are not Duplicative**

12 78. In assessing whether the second action is duplicative of the first, we examine
13 whether the causes of action and relief sought, as well as the parties or privies to the action, are
14 the same. (*See The Haytian Republic*, 154 U.S. at 124, 14 S.Ct. 992) ("There must be the same
15 parties, or, at least, such as represent the same interests; there must be the same rights asserted
16 and the same relief prayed for; the relief must be founded upon the same facts, and the ...
17 essential basis, of the relief sought must be the same."

- 18 1. In the instant federal complaint nothing is the same;
- 19 2. There must be the same parties, or, at least, such as represent the same interests;
- 20 3. There must be the same rights asserted;
- 21 4. The same relief prayed for;
- 22 5. The relief must be founded upon the same facts, and the ... essential basis,
23 of the relief sought must be the same.

24 **J. Purportedly Related Cases**

25 79. Federal case 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA was filed long before there was a state
26 court judgement of dismissal. The federal case 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA was based on the
27 minimal facts known at that time as to some issues. However, the state case then exploded when
28 the city filed the vexatious litigant motion against its own defendant, and it was discovered the
case was being adjudicated by an SJO with no jurisdiction. No one could have foreseen or
predicted this fact pattern. There is little to compare.

- 29 80. The instant complaint includes counts for malicious abuse of process, malicious

1 prosecution and planned two additional federal counts with the courts permission for: (1) First
2 Amendment Retaliation and (2) Deprivation of Rights under Color of law.

3 **III. IMMUNITIES**

4 **A. Statutory Immunity**

5 81. Once a litigant establishes governmental liability after successfully imposing a duty,
6 the next threshold issue is whether any statutory immunity applies to bar the litigant's cause of
7 action. (*Davidson v. City of Westminster* (1982) 32 Cal.3d 197, 202.)

8 82. The City mis-quotes *Harris v. County of Riverside*, 904 F.2d 497, 502 (9th Cir.
9 1990) "Loss of the use and enjoyment of his land deprived Harris of no less a property interest.
10 He was therefore entitled to constitutional procedural due process before the County deprived
11 him of that property interest."

12 83. The City must allege the ultimate facts in its citation (the citation becomes the city
13 civil complaint) (*Semole v. Sansoucie*, 28 Cal. App. 3d 714 - Cal: Court of Appeal, 2nd Appellate
14 Dist., 2nd Div. 1972) (*Lim v. TV CORP. INTERN.*, 121 Cal. Rptr. 2d 333 - Cal: Court of Appeal,
15 2nd Appellate Dist., 4th Div. 2002) By not alleging the facts, location of alleged violations, the
16 City fails to provide enough information for a citizen to cure the allegation or defend against the
17 specific allegations and violations in a court of law.

18 84. A notice pleading is insufficient to permit a citizen to cure the allegation before
19 fine. California is a fact pleading state. Each count of the citation must be reasonably precise
20 and to reasonably describe a violation exists, where to locate it, and defend against the precise
21 specifics of the citation in court. The legislature expected cities to follow established law.

22 85. The City must follow federal law, state law and its own law. The City must give
23 proper notice (*City of Santa Monica v. Gonzalez*, 182 P. 3d 1027 - Cal: Supreme Court 2008).
24 These are ministerial acts.

25 86. Procedural due process refers to the constitutional requirement that when the
26 government acts in such a manner that denies a citizen of life, liberty, or property interest, the
27 person must be given notice, the opportunity to be heard, and a decision by a neutral
28 decision-maker.

1 87. **Notice** - Failure to provide adequate notice (or any notice at all) was a violation of
2 state law. GC. §53069.4 (2)(A) (time to cure requires notice), (b)(1). Also a violation under DHS
3 municipal code "notice of violation," "notice of public nuisance" under Title 4, chapter 4.04. No
4 notice was sent or posted or part of record. Following the law is a ministerial act. A violation of
5 DHSMC §4.16.050, §4.20.020

6 88. **City ticket** - (notice pleading) Administrative citation are not generally handed to
7 violations, they are mailed. The City's citation(s) mis-state the text of the law, and fail describe
8 with reasonable specificity what the alleged violator is responsible for so that it can be cured. The
9 citation failed to follow mandates of the law. Following the law is a ministerial act.

10 89. **Administrative hearing** - Properly giving 10 days postal notice for the
11 administrative hearing is a requirement of law. Failing to provide a hearing that was paid for in
12 advance is a violation of law. Following the law is a ministerial act.

13 90. **Abuse of process** - The City took "a willful act in the use of the legal process not
14 proper in the regular conduct of the proceeding." *Posadas v. City of Reno*, 851 P.2d 438, 445
15 (*Nev. 1993*). The City as plaintiff filing a vexatious litigant motion was not legal or proper
16 against its own defendant. It was for a purpose not designed and intended.") (cited with approval
17 in *LaMantia v. Redisi*, 38 P.3d 877, 879 n.8 (*Nev. 2002*)). Miner sues under Federal, State, and
18 Common Law Claims. Abuse of process "concerns the misuse of the tools the law affords
19 litigants once they are in a lawsuit.

20 91. **Malicious prosecution** - Fourth Amendment malicious-prosecution
21 claim under 42 U. S. C. §1983. The City brought a quasi criminal charge, vexatious litigant
22 charge, against Miner, a defendant, a lifelong stain on his reputation, which if violated would be
23 contempt of court. In California, contempt of court penalties can vary greatly, ranging from
24 community service and fines to imprisonment. (*Chiaverini v. City of Napoleon, Ohio*, 144 S. Ct.
25 1745 - *Supreme Court 2024*). The City lacked probable cause because Miner was the defendant,
26 the City lacked standing which is legal jurisdiction to bring the motion in state court as pled in
27 the FAC. Miner has sued under Federal, State, and common law claims.

28 92. Miner's claim is not for prosecuting the judicial or administrative proceedings, it is

1 for falsely filing a motion where the government was by law the plaintiff and lacked jurisdiction
2 to file. The City intended to chill Miner's free speech after Miner and his attorney filed a federal
3 action against the City attorney and the City.

4 93. The Government Claims Act does include sections that enable tort claims against a
5 governmental entity, including Government Code sections 815.2(a), 815.4, and 835.

6 94. The government employee is not immune, the public entity has the authority and
7 may have a duty to indemnify the employee. (Gov. Code, § 825-825.6.) Likewise, the fact that a
8 public employee may be immune, does not block the public entity's liability under Government
9 Code section 815.4. (*McCarty v. State of California Department of Transportation* (2008) 164
10 *Cal.App.4th* 955.) Lastly, a public entity is liable derivatively for an injury proximately caused by
11 an act or omission of an employee of the public entity within the scope of his employment if the
12 act or omission would have given rise to a cause of action against that employee. (Gov. Code, §
13 815.2.)

14 95. Case law has limited this "discretionary" immunity to truly basic policy decisions.
15 Moreover, courts have drawn a distinction between a discretionary decision, on the one hand, and
16 negligent implementation of a decision, on the other hand. (*Scott v. County of Los Angeles* (1994)
17 *27 Cal.App.4th* 125.)

18 96. The availability of immunity turns on whether the act or omission constituted an
19 exercise of discretion in the making of a basic policy decision at the planning stage rather than at
20 the operational level of government decision making incident to normal operations, with the
21 latter not being immune. (*Barner v. Leeds* (2000) 24 *Cal.4th* 676, 685.) In determining whether
22 an act is discretionary or ministerial (i.e., not immune), one has to determine whether the act or
23 omission involved a conscious balancing of risks or advantages, or whether the act or omission
24 amounted to obedience or orders that leave the officer no choice, where the act or omission was
25 governed by specific statutory or regulatory directives.

26 97. State statutory immunity provisions do not apply to federal civil rights actions.
27 *Morrison v. Jones*, 607 F.2d 1269, 1273 (9th Cir.1979), cert. denied, 445 U.S. 962, 100 S.Ct.
28 1648, 64 L.Ed.2d 237 (1980). To construe a federal statute to allow a state immunity defense "to

1 have controlling effect would transmute a basic guarantee into an illusory promise", which the
2 supremacy clause does not allow. *Martinez v. California*, 444 U.S. 277, 284 n. 8, 100 S.Ct. 553,
3 558 n. 8, 62 L.Ed.2d 481 (1980). *Guillory v. County of Orange*, 731 F. 2d 1379 - Court of
4 Appeals, 9th Circuit 1984.

5 "Noting that virtually every public act admits of some element of discretion, we drew the line in *Johnson v. State of California* (1968) 69 Cal.2d 782 [73 Cal. Rptr. 240, 447 P.2d
6 352], between discretionary policy decisions which enjoy statutory immunity and
7 ministerial administrative acts which do not. We concluded that section 820.2 affords
immunity only for "basic policy decisions." (Italics added.) (See also *Elton v. County
8 of Orange* (1970) 3 Cal. App.3d 1053, 1057-1058 [84 Cal. Rptr. 27]; 4 Cal. Law
9 Revision Com. Rep. (1963) p. 810; *Van Alstyne, Supplement to Cal. Government Tort
Liability (Cont. Ed. Bar 1969)* § 5.54, pp. 16-17; *Comment, California Tort Claims Act: Discretionary Immunity (1966)* 39 So.Cal.L.Rev. 470, 471; cf. *James, Tort Liability of
Governmental Units and Their Officers (1955)* 22 U.Chi.L.Rev. 610, 637-638, 640, 642,
651.) (See *Tarasoff v. Regents of University of California*, 551 P. 2d 334 - Cal: Supreme
Court 1976)

11 98. Public entities may be vicariously liable for their employees' actions under Section
12 815.2 of the California Government Code. Government officials are liable for negligent
13 performance of their ministerial duties (*Muskopf v. Corning Hospital Dist.* (1961) 55 Cal.2d
14 211.)

15 99. The malicious prosecution claim is not for prosecuting any judicial or
16 administrative proceeding, it is for falsely charging Miner as a vexatious litigant when the City
17 was a "defendant" in violation of the statute. *Garmon v. County of Los Angeles*, 828 F. 3d 837 -
18 Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 2016.

19 **B. Qualified immunity**

20 100. The issues alleged are the most basic constitutional protections every city employee
21 and city officer should know. The allegations in the complaint encompass constitutional due
22 process violations as simple as failing to give notice, failing to provide the basic facts in a
23 citation- complaint, failing to provide a pre-deprivation hearing, failing to provide a post
24 deprivation hearing, mis-stating the law, mis-applying the law.

25 101. Administrative citations are generally mailed, not personally handed to an alleged
26 violator. Something are just so obvious they come without instructions. On a 200,000 sf property
27 if a code officer wants a land owner to pick up trash, he must give a reasonably precise location
28 and description of the alleged violation.

1 "And a ~~statute~~ (administrative citation) which either forbids or requires the doing of an
2 act in terms so vague that men of common intelligence must necessarily guess at its
3 meaning and differ as to its application, violates the first essential of due process of
4 law. *International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 216, 221; *Collins v. Kentucky*,
5 234 U.S. 634, 638. (*Connally v. General Constr. Co.*, 269 US 385 - Supreme Court 1926)

6 "Our opinion in Lanier thus makes clear that officials can still be on notice that their
7 conduct violates established law even in novel factual circumstances. Indeed, in Lanier,
8 we expressly rejected a requirement that previous cases be "fundamentally similar."
9 Although earlier cases involving "fundamentally similar" facts can provide especially
10 strong support for a conclusion that the law is clearly established, they are not necessary
11 to such a finding. The same is true of cases with "materially similar" facts.

12 "Accordingly, pursuant to Lanier, the salient question that the Court of Appeals ought to
13 have asked is whether the state of the law in 1995 gave respondents fair warning that
14 their alleged treatment of Hope was unconstitutional. It is to this question that we now
15 turn." *Hope v. Pelzer*, 536 US 730 - Supreme Court 2002

16 Substantial federal and state case law exists as to what exactly are due process violations.

17 *In re Sheena K.*, 153 P. 3d 282 - Cal: Supreme Court 2007 p. 729
18 *Simon v. San Paolo US Holding Co., Inc.*, 113 P. 3d 63 - Cal: Supreme Court 2005 p. 386
19 *People ex rel. Gallo v. Acuna*, 14 Cal. 4th 1090 - Cal: Supreme Court 1997 p. 1115
20 *Lanzetta v. New Jersey*, 306 US 451 - Supreme Court 1939
21 *Connally v. General Constr. Co.*, 269 US 385 - Supreme Court 1926 p.391
22 *United States v. Lanier*, 520 US 259 - Supreme Court 1997 p. 266
23 *State v. Bielski*, 5 NE 3d 1037 - Ohio: Court of Appeals, 7th Appellate Dist. 2013 citing lanier.
24 *State v. Ferraiolo*, 140 Ohio App. 3d 585 - Ohio: Court of Appeals, 11th Appellate Dist. 2000
25 *Davis v. Scherer*, 468 US 183 - Supreme Court 1984
26 *Wolff v. McDonnell*, 418 US 539 - Supreme Court 1974

27 102. This relates to the city citation as well (FAC ex #17) which was impossible for
28 Miner to decipher for violations on a 200,000 sf land parcel. Miner requested clarification, and
1 was ignored. The underpinning of a vagueness challenge is the due process concept of "fair
2 warning." (*People v. Castenada* (2000) 23 Cal.4th 743, 751, 97 Cal.Rptr.2d 906, 3 P.3d 278.)

3 The rule of fair warning consists of "the due process concepts of preventing arbitrary law
4 enforcement and providing adequate notice to potential offenders," protections that are
5 "embodied in the due process clauses of the federal and California Constitutions. (U.S. Const.,
6 Amends. V, XIV; Cal. Const., art. I, § 7)." The vagueness doctrine bars enforcement of "a statute
7 which either forbids or requires the doing of an act in terms so vague that men of common
8 intelligence must necessarily guess at its meaning and differ as to its application." (*People ex rel.*
9 *Gallo v. Acuna* (1997) 14 Cal.4th 1090, 1115, 60 Cal. Rptr.2d 277, 929 P.2d 596)

10 **Qualified Immunity Defendant Vu**

11 103. This federal case stems from issues related to Joseph Miner who received a city

1 ticket issued by a city code officer who works hand in hand with defendant Tuan Anh Vu.
2 Defendant Vu in turn works hand in hand with the city manager. A conspiracy and coverup is
3 alleged. Miner was told by Defendant Vu personally that he did not have control of the case,
4 former city manager Luke Rainy was in control. Discovery will need to be completed to access
5 additional facts to formally make these allegations. There has been no discovery at all. CPRA
6 requests were held back by defendant Vu. A litigation hold was noticed.

7 104. When Plaintiff reached out to city manager Rainy's office (ex #5) to drop the
8 frivolous citation and address the unlawful search and seizure issues, the attack on Plaintiff by
9 the City the relentless attack using citations increased. At that point defendant Vu became
10 involved the facts changed and the alleged evidence changed and false language in the City's
11 documents and pleadings changed. At this point on information and belief a conspiracy began
12 with code officer Messer, Defendant Vu, and city manager Luke Rainy.

13 105. Vu began holding back CPRA requests, failed to produce a warrant for the search,
14 and began authoring officer Messer's documents such as his declarations his hearing brief. When
15 Miner questioned defendant Vu about dismissing the *flyspeck* citation, Vu stated "Luke Rainey
16 was in charge of Miner's prosecution not Vu. Miner believes Vu participated as a supervisor,
17 manager, administrator, researcher and collaborator who worked directly with code officer
18 Messer, and city manager Luke Rainey to devise a scheme to protect the city from litigation as a
19 result of the warrantless search. No discovery has been taken. Emails and text messages were
20 never produced that were subpoenaed in the trial de novo CVPS2106001.

21 **IV. THE PRAYER IS PROPER FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES AGAINST CITY**

22 106. All acts and / or omissions perpetrated by each Defendant were engaged in
23 maliciously, callously, oppressively, wantonly, recklessly, grossly negligently, with deliberate
24 indifference to the rights allegedly violated, despicably, and with evil motive and / or intent, all
25 in disregard of the Plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by this reference the legal
26 principles set of punitive damages set forth in *Dang v. Cross*, 422 F.3d 800 (9th Cir. 2005).
27 Defendant's conduct was the actionable cause of Plaintiff's claimed injury.

28 **V. SERVICE OF PROCESS ON VU WAS PROPER AND LEGAL**

1 107. In an effort not to file redundant text and filings Miner refers to law, language, and
2 declaration of Miner in the Application for Default against Tuan Anh Vu. Defendant Vu was
3 properly served per California law. This document is part of the instant case record document
4 #19.

5 **VI. ABSTENTION DOCTRINES**

6 108. "**Abstention from the exercise of federal jurisdiction is the exception, not the**
7 **rule.**" *Colorado River*, 424 U.S. at 813, 96 S.Ct. 1236. Both this court and the Supreme Court
8 have long affirmed that "[d]istrict courts have an obligation and a duty to decide cases properly
9 before them." *Tucson*, 284 F.3d at 1132; *see also Deakins v. Monaghan*, 484 U.S. 193, 203, 108
10 S.Ct. 523, 98 L.Ed.2d 529 (1988) (describing federal courts' obligation to adjudicate matters
11 within their jurisdiction as "virtually unflagging" (quoting *Colorado River*, 424 U.S. at 817, 96
12 S.Ct. 1236)). **Abstention is generally permitted only in "exceptional circumstances,"** when
13 "denying a federal forum would clearly serve an important countervailing interest." *Quackenbush*
14 *v. Allstate Ins. Co.*, 517 U.S. 706, 716, 116 S.Ct. 1712, 135 L.Ed.2d 1 (1996).

15 **A. Rooker -Feldman**

16 109. "The Rooker-Feldman doctrine," is confined to cases of the kind from which the
17 doctrine acquired its name: cases brought by state-court losers complaining of injuries caused by
18 state-court judgments rendered before the district court proceedings commenced and inviting
19 district court review and rejection of those judgments." *Exxon Mobil Corp. v. Saudi Basic Indus.*
20 *Corp.*, 544 U.S. 280, 284 (2005)

21 110. The Rooker-Feldman doctrine forbids a losing party in state court from filing suit in
22 federal district court complaining of an injury caused by a state court judgment, and seeking
23 federal court review and rejection of that judgment.

24 111. To determine whether the Rooker-Feldman bar is applicable, a district court first
25 must determine whether the action contains a forbidden de facto appeal of a state court decision.
26 *Noel v. Hall*, 341 F.3d 1148, 1158 (9th Cir.2003).*[10]* A de facto appeal exists when "a federal

27 plaintiff asserts as a legal wrong an allegedly erroneous decision by a state court, and seeks relief
28 from a state court judgment based on that decision." In contrast, if "a federal plaintiff asserts as a

1 legal wrong an allegedly illegal act or omission by an adverse party, Rooker-Feldman does not
2 bar jurisdiction."

3 **112. "... for Rooker-Feldman to apply, a plaintiff must seek not only to set aside a
4 state court judgment; he or she must also allege a legal error by the state court as the basis
5 for that relief. *Kougasian v. TMSL, Inc.*, 359 F. 3d 1136 - Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 2004.**

6 **113. A state-court decision is not review-able by lower federal courts, but a statute
7 or rule governing the decision may be challenged in a federal action. See, e.g., *Feldman*, 460
8 U.S., at 487, 103 S.Ct. 1303.**

9 **B. Pullman**

10 114. Honorable Judge Christina Snyder's Order dated 3/27/23 Case 8:22-cv-01043-
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12 "As described above, the Pullman abstention doctrine allows a federal court to postpone
13 the exercise of federal jurisdiction when "a federal constitutional issue by a state court
determination of pertinent state law. C-Y Dev. Co. V. City of Redlands, 703 F.2d at 377.
14 The three part test is whether "(1) the complaint involves a sensitive area of state social
15 policy which federal courts ought not intrude upon; (2) federal adjudication of the
constitutional question can be avoided by a definitive ruling on a state issue that would
16 terminate the controversy; and (3) the state law in question is unclear." Korean Buddhist
Dae Won Sa Temple, 952 F. Supp. at 688. might be mooted or presented in a different
posture.

17 "The Court finds that the first Pullman abstention factor is satisfied in this case. As
already set forth above, the zoning, land use, and code enforcement issues in the case
18 touch upon "sensitive issue[s] of social policy." Pearl, 774 F.2d at 1463; see also
Huffman, 420 U.S. at 604."

19 115. Miner argues this is a different complaint with different issues, following dismissal
20 without prejudice (ex #2) of the related state action CVPS2106001 (see FAC ¶ 227-262).
21 Effectively nothing has been adjudged, nothing decided, relating to the five separate and distinct
22 allegations contained in the charging citation at issue. The count in question relates to
23 constitutional due process related issues. (*Fleishbein v. Western Auto Supply Agency* (1937) 19
24 *Cal.App.2d* 424, 427). The superior court effectively simply ignored every legal issue.

25 Pullman - In order to "give due respect to a suitor's choice of a federal forum for the
hearing and decision of his federal constitutional claims," Pullman abstention should
26 rarely be applied. *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241, 248, 88 S.Ct. 391, 19 L.Ed.2d 444
(1967). It is appropriate to abstain under Pullman only if each of the following three
27 factors is present: "(1) the case touches on a sensitive area of social policy upon which the
federal courts ought not enter unless no alternative to its adjudication is open, (2)
28 constitutional adjudication plainly can be avoided if a definite ruling on the state issue

would terminate the controversy, and (3) [the proper resolution of] the possible determinative issue of state law is uncertain." *Confederated Salish*, 29 F.3d at 1407; accord *Canton*, 498 F.2d at 845. Thus, the absence of any one of these three factors is sufficient to prevent the application of Pullman abstention.

116. Two factors must be present for Pullman abstention to be warranted: (1) there must
be substantial uncertainty as to the meaning of the state law, and (2) there must be a reasonable
possibility that a state court's clarification of state law might obviate the need for a federal
constitutional ruling. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51, 54-55, 94 S.Ct. 303, 38 L.Ed.2d 260
(1973).

117. The issues raised by Plaintiff have not been addressed in 40 years in any state court;
since the statute was enacted in 1995. There are no social policy issues. The low level of the
superior court ignores the law. These are US Constitutional issues.

C. Younger

118. We next consider whether the case should have been dismissed under *Younger v.
Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 91 S.Ct. 746, 27 L.Ed.2d 669 (1971), an issue we review de novo. See
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. v. Connors, 979 F.3d 732, 735 (9th Cir. 2020). In *Younger*, the
Supreme Court declared a "national policy forbidding federal courts to stay or enjoin pending
state court proceedings except under special circumstances." *Rynearson v. Ferguson*, 903 F.3d
920, 924-25 (9th Cir. 2018) (quoting *ReadyLink Healthcare, Inc. v. State Comp. Ins. Fund*, 754
F.3d 754, 759 (9th Cir. 2014)). Because there are no ongoing enforcement actions or any court
judgment, abstention under *Younger* is not warranted.

D. Burford

119. Burford abstention "is concerned with protecting complex state administrative
processes from undue federal interference." *New Orleans Pub. Serv., Inc. v. Council of New
Orleans (NOPSI)*, 491 U.S. 350, 362, 109 S.Ct. 2506, 105 L.Ed.2d 298 (1989). (1963)). Burford
does not apply here.

E. Colorado

120. Colorado River does not provide a basis for abstention, either. Colorado River
abstention accords "deference to state court proceedings," *Travelers Indem. Co. v. Madonna*, 914
F.2d 1364, 1367 (9th Cir. 1990), and it permits federal court abstention in the face of "concurrent

1 federal and state proceedings," so long as certain pragmatic and doctrinal factors warrant such
2 abstention, *Seneca Ins. Co., Inc. v. Strange Land, Inc.*, 862 F.3d 835, 841-42 (9th Cir. 2017)
3 (emphasis added); see also *Colorado River*, 424 U.S. at 814, 96 S.Ct. 1236. Here, there is no
4 concurrent state-court proceeding. Accordingly, Colorado River does not apply.

5 **F. Thibodaux**

6 121. A district court decided to abstain cited *Louisiana Power & Light Co. v. City of*
7 *Thibodaux*, 360 U.S. 25, 79 S.Ct. 1070, 3 L.Ed.2d 1058 (1959). Thibodaux is really a variant of
8 the Burford abstention doctrine and has not evolved as a separate doctrine of its own. The case
9 permits a federal court to abstain in a diversity case where state law is unclear and an important
10 state interest is at stake. *Richman Bros. Records Inc. v. U.S. Sprint Communications Co.*, 953
11 F.2d 1431, 1443 (3d Cir. 1991).

12 **G. Abstention Conclusion**

13 122. In sum, this case does not meet the requirements of any "abstention doctrine being
14 invoked." *Fireman's Fund Ins. Co. v. City of Lodi, Cal.*, 302 F.3d 928, 939 (9th Cir. 2002); see
15 also *C-Y Development*, 703 F.2d at 377 ("**[T]here is little or no discretion to abstain in a case**
16 **[that] does not meet traditional abstention requirements.**"); *Porter v. Jones*, 319 F.3d 483,
17 487 (9th Cir. 2003) (*same*).

18 **VII. CONCLUSION**

19 123. Based on the foregoing, supporting declaration and exhibits, Plaintiff requests this
20 court deny Defendant's motion in total. Consider defendant Vu legally served. Permit Plaintiff
21 leave to amend, permit additional counts for constitutional first amendment retaliation, and
22 perhaps deprivation of rights under color of law. This is the first complaint served on any
23 defendant; effectively it is the initial complaint.

24
25 Respectfully submitted,

26
27
28 
Joseph Miner, pro se, 4/13/25

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH MINER

I, Joseph Miner declare:

1. I state the following facts and history of my own personal knowledge and if called, I can and would testify competently thereto.

2. Except where stated in this declaration upon information and belief, the facts set forth in this declaration are known to me personally, and, if called and sworn as a witness in a court of law, I could and would competently testify to such facts. As for those facts stated upon information and belief, I believe in good faith that they are true.

3. My name is Joseph Miner. I am over the age of eighteen (18).

4. I personally authored the foregoing motion.

5. All facts, history described by me, and law, documents and exhibits provided by me, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

6. **EXHIBIT 1** - Defendant Vu attempts to again evade service. The registered process server attempted to serve defendant who at the city. Assistant city clerk Dan McVey a stated to the process server McVey had authority to accept service for defendant Vu. In an abundance of caution the process server visited the City three times pursuant to California law and legally subserved defendant Vu at the City offices. **On Thursday March 6, 2025 I emailed defendant Vu the complaint to two email addresses. I received an email in return from Mario Alfaro who states he represents defendant Vu and he will accept service via email.** Defendant Vu was served at the City pursuant to California law by US postal mail, and by email. See both attached exhibit #1 and document #19 filed with the court. Mr. Vu has been served pursuant to California law. Defendant Vu used the same evasive tactics as an Officer of the City and an Officer of the court in stayed case 8:22-cv-01043-CAS-MAA.

7. **EXHIBIT #2** - Attached is the judgment of dismissal case CVPS2106001. This is the case regarding the failure to issue notice, the un-litigated citation, the failure to provide an administrative hearing. Nothing has been adjudicated.

8. EXHIBIT #3 - England Reservation case CVPS2106001 constitutional claims.

9. EXHIBIT #4 - Affirmative Defenses case CVPS2106001 constitutional defenses.

10. EXHIBIT #5 - Letter to Luke Rainy city manager regarding the abusive treatment by the code officer. (This is where the code issues began) included as evidence.

11. **EXHIBIT #6** - Demurrer in case CVPS2106001 to citation #27948D. Document only provided to exhibit surgical breakdown of gross legal and factual inadequacies in the City's civil charging document used in the civil case. **The subordinate judicial officer's ruling was that a party cannot demurrer to an administrative citation.** The demurrer cites the due process issues and constitutional law. The document is persuasive support for the due process count alleged against City defendants. It is a true and correct copy of the document filed with the court. (Riverside county superior court charges exorbitant fees to download file stamped copies and provides no filed stamped copies upon submission of documents electronically).

12. Plaintiff hesitates to burden the court with the entire oral transcript of all hearings, but to support Plaintiff's argument the transcript is available upon request.

13. Unfortunately this entire case has been a Kafkaesque circular argument for Plaintiff. The same set of Riverside county superior court judges that control the appointments in superior court of subordinate judicial officers to hear limited civil trials without stipulation are the same judges named in the appellate division, and the same judges names that run the court, and the same judges that set assignments. Common sense dictates they are not going to rule against their own presiding judge's procedure or administrative decisions, their own court assignments, or the judges they have lunch with. There is no life appointment in state court.

14. The best Plaintiff can do is show the Constitution, the bill of rights, show the law, cite the Constitution, argue the law, and hope and pray someone who actually cares about the fairness judicial integrity and of the United States justice system is listening / watching.

16. Miner would welcome the appointment of an amici or other counsel to level the playing field regarding argument of these important constitutional issues and questions of law.

I declare, under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration is executed this 14th day of April 2025, in the County of Orange, State of California.

Joseph Miner, plaintiff pro se